

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-04

FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5126

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 13422

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR ID

SUBJ: VISIT OF SOVIET PARLIAMENTARIANS TO INDONESIA

REF: JAKARTA MEMCON ON ASAHAN 10/16/74

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION: A TEN-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE SUPREME SOVIET LED BY VICE PRESIDENT ALI OGLI HALILOV ARRIVED IN JAKARTA OCTOBER 30 FOR A ONE-WEEK GOOD-WILL VISIT. THE SOVIET PARLIAMENTARIANS ARE RETURNING A VISIT TO MOSCOW BY GROUP OF INDONESIAN LEGISLATORS IN MAY 1973. VISIT IS ANOTHER ASPECT OF CURRENT EFFORTS BY BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN COOL SINCE PKI-SUPPOSED COUP ATTEMPT IN 1965. IN VERY FRIENDLY REMARKS TO PRESS, SOVIET DELEGATES HAVE CON-
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TRASTED PROGRESS OF SUHARTO GOVERNMENT WITH "ECONOMIC

CHAOS" OF SUKARNO ERA, NOTED POSITIVE ASPECTS OF MILITARY RULE AND STRESSED THAT GOI DOMESTIC POLICY (WHICH IS STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST) IS NO OBSTACLE TO IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH USSR. FOLLOWING BASED ON PRESS REPORTS. END SUMMARY.

1. TWO DAYS BEFORE ARRIVAL OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM MOSCOW, SOVIET AMBASSADOR KUZNETSOV SAID USSR IS SERIOUS ABOUT STEPPING UP TIES OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP WITH INDONESIA. SPEAKING AT DINNER IN HONOR OF INDONESIAN PRESS GRGXP WHICH HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MOSCOW, KUZNETSOV SAID VISIT BY SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION SYMBOLIZED "NEW ERA IN SOVIET INDONESIAN RELATIONS."

2. ON DAY AFTER ARRIVAL, SOVIET DELEGATION CALLED ON PRESIDENT SUHARTO AND DELIVERED LETTER FROM SOVIET PRESIDENT PODGORNYY, WHICH SALUTED INDONESIAN INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE AND WELCOMED GOI INTEREST IN COOPERATION WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. LEADER HALILOV TOLD REPORTERS AT PRESS CONFERENCE AFTERWARDS THAT MEETING DEALT MAINLY WITH TRADE AND ECONOMIC MATTERS. HE STRESSED NEED FOR CLOSER SOVIET-INDONESIAN TIES, NOTING THAT "DIFFERENT SOCIAL SYSTEMS" ARE NO OBSTACLE.

3. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF SOVIET ROLE IN ASAHAN HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT, WHICH IS NOW SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GOI AND JAPANESE CONSORTIUM, HALILOV SAID POSSIBLE SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN ASAHAN WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT LATER DATE. (COMMENT: QUESTION ABOUT ASAHAN WAS DOUBTLESS PROMPTED BY RECENT REMARK BY FONMIN MALIK THAT IF JAPANESE COULD NOT MEET INDONESIAN TERMS FOR LONG-DELAYED ASAHAN PROJECT, GOI MIGHT APPROACH SOVIETS, SINCE THEY HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN IT. (SEE EMBASSY MEMCON OF 10/16.)

4. ANOTHER DELEGATE, VLADIMIR KUDRAYAVTSEV, SAID USSR MUST REGARD INDONESIA "ON BASIS OF EXISTING REALITIES," SAYING "SOCIAL SYSTEMS AND IDEOLOGIES ARE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED" AND THAT USSR DOES NOT WANT TO "EXPORT REVOLUTION."

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5. BORROWING PHRASE FROM GOI DEVELOPMENT IDEOLOGY, KUDRAYAVTSEV SAID SOLE PURPOSE OF SOVIET AID TO INDONESIA BEFORE 1965 WAS TO HELP INDONESIA BUILD UP "NATIONAL RESILIENCE," AND THAT ILL-FEELING AGAINST USSR WAS RESULT OF "COLD WAR" EFFORTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

6. A THIRD DELEGATE, PROF ZAROV OF INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL STUDIES, NOTED GREATER STABILITY AND IMPROVED

PROSPECTS OF INDONESIAN ECONMY, IN CONTRAST TO "ECONMIC CHAOS" OF GUIDED DEMOCRACY ERA. HE SAID IT IS UNREASON- ABLE TO EXPECT THAT GOI COULD ACHIEF A "FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF PROSPERITY IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF DEVELOPMENT" AND THAT THIS WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT COMPLETION OF SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN.

7. COMMENTING ON POSITION OF MILITARY, ZAROV SAID "THERE IS NO MILITARY DICTATORSHIP IN INDONESIA LIKE IN OTHER COUNTRIES"...9THE ROLE OF TTE ARMY IS NOT ALWAYS BAD. FREQUENTLY IT PLAYS A POSITIVE ROLE." HE ADDED THAT NEGATIVE AND UNINFORMED CRITICISM ABOUT INDONESIA IS UNFAIR.

8. IN ADDITION TO CALLS ON SUHARTO AND PARLIAMENT, SOVIET GROUP CALLING ON FONMIN MALIK, MINISTER OF STATE FOR ECONOMY AND FINANCE WIDJOYO, MINISTER OF MANPOWER SUBROTO AND JAKARTA GOVERNOR SADIKIN. THEY ARE ALSO MAKING TRIPS TO DEVELOPMENT SITES IN SUMATRA AND TO BALI.

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9. COMMENT: EFFUSIVE PRAISE OF GOI AND REPEATED EMPHASIS THAT INDONESIA'S DOMESTIC ANTI-COMMUNISM IS NO PROBLEM ARE SIGNS THAT SOVIETS ARE VERY EARNEST ABOUT BETTER RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA AND WILLING TO IGNORE IDEO- LOGICAL PROBLEMS. STATEMENT THAT USSR REJECTS EXPORTING REVOLUTION DOUBTLESS INTENDED TO REASSURE GOI ELEMENTS WHO FEAR THAT RENEWED SOVIET AID, WHICH MALIK WILL DIS- CUSS DURING VISIT TO MOSCOW IN DECEMBER, POSES SUBVERSION DANGER. NEWSOM

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